Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

and presented them with some sheets of paper, coated with the same preparation, which had been made for the purpose of receiving writing, that could be effaced with a sponge. The coating of this paper, and what could be scraped from the pillars, were analysed; and from the results of these analyses, the account given by the son, and various experimental trials subsequently made, the following appears to be an accurate description of the preparation, except perhaps with respect to the proportion of the ingredients, and in these Mr. Bachelier himself probably followed no precise rule.

The quantity of lime to be used at once, being determined on, this is to be slaked in as little water as possible, but enough to enable it to pass through a sieve not very fine, in order to separate the parts that will not slake. This is to be triturated with skimmed-milk cheese, to the consistence of a soft, smooth, and coherent paste; when calcined gypsum, equal to about two-fifths of the weight of the lime, and pure white lead equal to about one third, are to be added; and by farther grinding on the stone, with the addition of a little water, the whole is to be reduced to a pap, rather thick than fluid. Lastly, it is to be diluted with common water the moment of using it, which is to be done with a painters or varnishers brush.

Mr. Bachelier used oystershell lime, but good stone lime is probably not less efficacious. Care must be taken, that the white lead is not adulterated with whiting, as this would render the composition less adhesive. Indeed I am inclined to think, from the account given by his son, that he did not use ceruse, but employed a strong solution of sugar of lead instead of the water here directed. All the whey must be well pressed out of the cheese; and, if it be not fresh made, it should be left some time exposed to a moist air to soften. When used fresh, about a fourth of the weight of the other three ingredients will be a sufficient quantity. The coating laid on should be so thin, as not to injure the delicacy of the edges or indented angles of the finest sculpture.

On the Culture of the Potato in Hot-beds; by Thomas Andrew Knight, Esq. F.R.S., &c.

THE potato being now very extensively cultivated under glass, and with artificial heat, any improvement of its culture will probably prove acceptable to many readers of the Horticultural Transactions; and I am therefore induced to send the following account of some methods which I have practised with success, and which will, I believe, be found better than any at present generally known.

The varieties of potatoes, which are well calculated for early forcing, begin to vegetate before Christmas; and it is of consequence to preserve the germs and roots first emitted, from injury, where a crop of good potatoes is required before the end of May. I therefore plant my potatoes in pots of about six inches diameter, in January (a single potato in each), and the pots are then placed in the ground, and covered with litter, to protect them from frost; and in this situation they remain till the hot-bed is ready to receive them. In the mean time, the roots extend themselves through the mould within the pots, and the germs reach its surface; whilst the excitability of the plants is not at all expended, on account of the low temperature in which they vegetate: and, therefore, when plunged into the hot-bed, they instantly shoot with excessive rapidity, and in a few days begin to generate tubers. One stem alone should be suffered to grow in each pot; for where more remain, the tubers are smaller, and the crop is not increased in weight. When the plants grow in small pots, the gardener will have apparently the advantage of being able to take out the largest potatoes, by inverting the pots, without materially injuring the fibrous roots; but this practice will rarely be found eligible, because the plants, having the range of their roots confined to the limits of the pot, soon occupy the whole of their pasture, and therefore do not produce their tubers in succession as they will under common circumstances.

The lights should be drawn off during the day, when the Spring is far enough advanced to permit this to be done without injury to the plants; and early in May the pots may be taken out of the hotbed, which may be employed for other purposes; and as it must necessarily have been kept very dry during the latter period of the growth of the potatoes, it will generally afford a strong heat on being well watered.

I confine my plants (which are naturally of very dwarfish growth) to small pots, because under this mode of culture the tubers acquire maturity sooner, and are better; but the crop is not so heavy as when their fibrous roots are permitted to extend more widely: and therefore, where a larger, but rather later crop, is required, the best plan is to put the tubers to vegetate in small pots, and from these to remove them, with their roots and germs uninjured, to the hot-bed.

I tried the effect of placing a few tubers (half a dozen only) on the floor of my cellar, disposing them just in contact with each other; and as soon as the germs were about four inches long, a hot-bed was made ready to receive them. This experiment succeeded perfectly; and as it is not attended with so much expense and trouble as either of the preceding methods, it will be found, in many cases, the most eligible. All that appears necessary to obtain an early crop, is to advance the growth of the plant, as much as convenient, under a low temperature, so as to avoid all unnecessary expenditure of its excitability; and, subsequently, to preserve its germs and roots as much as possible uninjured in transplantation.

Were the potato incapable of being raised by forcing in greater perfection, than it is found in the markets of the metropolis, I should think the labour and expense of propagating it very ill applied: but the yellow variety, which is now very generally cultivated round London, and which is known in other parts of the kingdom under the name of *Fox's Seedling,* has no other merits, whilst young, than its earliness, and a moderately large produce, for in every other respect it is below mediocrity; and even when full grown, it is never excellent:—indeed, a good potato for forcing, does not appear to me to be at present in the possession of the market gardeners of London.

I hoped to have sent this year to the Horticultural Society, samples of two or three very early new varieties of potatoes, which I have obtained from seed by the process detailed in their Transactions of 1807; and for that purpose I had planted a considerable quantity. But, unfortunately, I planted them in a field at a considerable distance from my house, for the advantage of fresh soil, where the rooks, from a rookery in the neighbourhood, discovered, and so nearly destroyed the whole, root and branch, in June, that my best varieties but just escaped total destruction. Next season I hope to be more fortunate.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

AGRICULTURE.

A GENERAL View of the Agriculture and Minerals of Derbyshire; by John Farey, £1. 1s. bds.

A General View of the Agriculture of the County of Cornwall; by G. R. Worgan, 12s. bds.

BIOGRAPHY.

The Lives of Andrew Robinson Bowes, esq. and the Countess of Strathmore, from authentic documents; by Jesse Foot, esq. Surgeon, 6s. 6d. bds.

Memoirs of Count Grammont; by Anthony Hamilton, embellished with 64 fine engravings, 3½ guineas bds.—6 guineas royal quarto.

The Remains of Joseph Blacket, consisting of Sketches, Original Dramas, Poems, &c.; with memoirs of his life; by Mr. Pratt, £1.

DRAMA.

The Royal Oak, an historical play; by W. Dimond, esq.

Hit or Miss, a musical farce; by J. Pocock, esq. 2s.

High Life in the City, a comedy, in five acts; by J. G. Eyre, esq. 2s. 6d.

The Doubtful Son; or Secrets of a Palace, in five acts; by W. Dimond, esq. 2s. 6d.

Twenty Years Ago, a new melo dramatic entertainment; by J. Pocock, esq. 2s.

The Bee Hive, a musical farce; in 2 acts, composed by Mr. Horne, 2s.

EDUCATION.

The Universal Preceptor, or General Grammar of all Arts, Sciences, and Useful Knowledge; by the Rev. David Blair, 4s. 6d.

Six hundred Questions and Exercises on the various Chapters of Blair's Universal Preceptor, 1s. sewed.

The Tutor's Key, or answers and solutions of one thousand, four hundred questions, examples and problems, contained in Blair's Universal Preceptor; Goldsmith's Grammar of Geography; and the Grammar of Chemistry, 3s.

Models of Juvenile Letters on familiar and every day subjects; by the Rev. D. Blair, 3s. 6d.

A new Dictionary of the English and Dutch Languages; by Samuel Hull Wilcocke, 10s. 6d.

HISTORY.

An Account of Tunis; of its government, manners, customs, and antiquities, &c. by Thos. Magill, 6s. bds.

A History of the Roman Government, from the commencement of the state, till the total subversion of liberty, in the year of Rome 724; by Alexander Brodie, 12s. bds.

A History of the Helvetic Republics; by Francis Hare Naylor, esq. 4 vols. 8vo. £1. 16s. bds.

The Present State of Turkey, or a description of the constitution, government, and laws of the Ottoman empire; by Thomas Thornton, esq. 2 vols. 21s. bds.

A History of Barbadoes, from the first discovery of the Island, in the year 1605, till the year 1801; by John Poyter, £1. 11s. 6d. bds.

An Account of the kingdom of Nepaul; by Colonel Wm. Kirkpatrick, with a map and 15 engravings—two guineas and half, bds.

Observations on the Natural History, Climate, and Diseases of Madeira, during a period of eighteen years; by William Gourlay, M.D., &c. &c. 6s. bds.

LAW.

A View of the Jurisprudence of the Isle of Man; by J. Johnson, esq. 8vo. 10s. 6d. bds.

MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

A Letter to Dr. Jones, on the composition of the Eau Medicinale d' Husson; by James Moore, member of the Royal College of Surgeons, &c. 2s.

Letters concerning the Diseases of the Urethra; by Charles Bell, 7s. 6d.